

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the previous Abstract with the following redlined Abstract:

~~It is an object of the~~ The present invention is to provide a method and an
apparatus for discriminating the type of an optical recording medium and the number of
recording layers in the medium. ~~and a method for discriminating an optical recording medium~~
~~which can quickly discriminate the kind of an optical recording medium.~~ The apparatus for
~~discriminating an optical recording medium according to the present invention includes a first~~
electrode and a second electrode placed in the vicinity of a light transmission layer of the
recording medium, an alternating current signal generation circuit for applying an alternating
current A to the first electrode, a detection circuit for detecting the level of an alternating current
B appearing at the second electrode, and a control circuit for controlling the operations of the
alternating current signal generation circuit and the detection circuit, and a table provided in the
control circuit.

~~According to the present invention, in the case where two or more kinds of optical~~
~~recording media in which the layer configuration and materials of layers between an incidence~~
~~plane of a laser beam and a conductive layer formed on a substrate are different are marketed~~
~~concurrently, it is possible to quickly discriminate each kind of optical recording media.~~